

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11-18, 20, and 22-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4, 6, 11, 16, 20, 22, 23, 25, and 26 are amended herein. Claims 5, 10, 19, and 21 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration is requested based on the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Response to Arguments:

The Applicants appreciate the consideration given to their arguments, and the new grounds of rejection. Further favorable consideration is requested.

Objections to the Claims:

Claims 4, 25, and 26 were objected to for various informalities. Claims 4, 25, and 26 were amended in substantial accord with the Examiner's suggestions. The Examiner's suggestions are appreciated. Withdrawal of the objection is earnestly solicited.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11-18, 20, and 22-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,981,633 to Inoue et al. (hereinafter "Inoue") in view of Official Notice. The rejection is traversed to the extent it would apply to the claims as amended. Reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Inoue is submitted to be disqualified as a reference against the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c). As provided therein:

(1) Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the claimed invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Both the subject application and Inoue, in particular, are assigned to Fujitsu Limited. Inoue, moreover, was issued on January 3, 2006, or after the US filing date of the subject application, which is February 11, 2004. Inoue, consequently, qualifies as prior art only under 102(e), and shall not preclude patentability under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Withdrawal of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

The last clause of claim 1, in any case, recites:

A totaling unit that separately calculates, at the time of finishing a transaction processing with the customer, a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit.

Neither Inoue nor Official Notice teaches, discloses, or suggests calculating "a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit," as recited in claim 1. Inoue, rather, calculates a *current* amount of gift certificates in drawer 4a, and a *current* amount of cash in TC 5a, which is a change machine. In particular, as described at column 10, lines 37 and 38:

- 1) D(n): current amount of gift certificates in drawer 4a
- 2) M(n): current amount of cash in TC 5a

Since Inoue calculates a current amount of gift certificates in drawer 4a, and a current amount of cash in TC 5a, Inoue is not calculating "a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit," as recited in claim 1.

The current amount of cash in TC 5a of Inoue, moreover, is equal to the amount of cash plus the increase or decrease at the time of the operation, not "a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit," as recited in claim 1. In particular, as described at column 10, lines 11-14:

Thereafter each amount is calculated at this time, as: $D(2)=D(1)+\delta D(2)$, and $M(2)=M(1)+\delta M(2)$, then $He(2)=D(2)+M(2)=D(1)+\delta D(2)+M(1)+\delta M(2)$.

The δ shows the increase/decrease in cash amount at the time of the operation, as described at column 9, lines 10, 11, and 12.

Since current amount of cash in TC 5a of Inoue is equal to the amount of cash plus the increase or decrease at the time of the operation, Inoue is not calculating "a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit," as recited in claim 1. Claim 1 is submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 2, 4, and 22 depend from claim 1 and add additional distinguishing elements. Claims 2, 4, and 22 are thus also submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2, 4, and 22 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 6-9 and 23:

The last clause of claim 6 recites:

A totaling unit that separately calculates, at the time of finishing a transaction processing with the customer, a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit.

Neither Inoue nor Official Notice teaches, discloses, or suggests calculating "a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit," as discussed above with respect to the rejection of claim 1. Claim 6 is thus also submitted to be allowable, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to the rejection of claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 6 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 7, 8, 9, and 23 depend from claim 6 and add additional distinguishing elements. Claims 7, 8, 9, and 23 are thus also submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7, 8, 9, and 23 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 11-15 and 24:

The last clause of claim 11 recites:

Separately calculating, at the time of finishing a transaction processing with the customer, a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit.

Neither Inoue nor Official Notice teaches, discloses, or suggests calculating "a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit," as discussed above with respect to the rejection of claim 1. Claim 11 is thus submitted to be allowable, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to the rejection of claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 11 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 12-15 and 24 depend from claim 11 and add additional distinguishing elements. Claims 12-15 and 24 are thus also submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of

claims 12-15 and 24 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 16, 17, 18, and 25:

The last clause of claim 16 recites:

Separately calculating, at the time of finishing a transaction processing with the customer, a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit.

Neither Inoue nor Official Notice teaches, discloses, or suggests calculating "a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit," as discussed above with respect to the rejection of claim 1. Claims 16 is thus also submitted to be allowable, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to the rejection of claim number one. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 16 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 17, 18, and 25 depend from claim 16 and add additional distinguishing elements. Claims 17, 18, and 25 are thus also submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 17, 18, and 25 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 20 and 26:

The last clause of claim 20 recites:

Separately calculating, at the time of finishing a transaction processing with the customer, a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit.

Neither Inoue nor Official Notice teaches, discloses, or suggests calculating "a total of the amount of the accepted cash that has been accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a total of the amount of the rejected cash that has been manually input through the manual input unit," as discussed above with respect to the rejection of claim 1. Claim 20 is the submitted to be allowable, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to the rejection of claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 20 is earnestly solicited.

Claim 26 depends from claim 20 and adds further distinguishing elements. Claims 26 is thus also submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 26 is earnestly solicited.

Application Serial No. 10/775,142
Amendment filed September 10, 2009
Reply to Office Action mailed July 13, 2009

Conclusion:

Accordingly, in view of the reasons given above, it is submitted that all of claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11-18, 20, and 22-26 are allowable over the cited references. Allowance of all claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11-18, 20, and 22-26 and of this entire application is therefore respectfully requested.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: September 10, 2009

By: /Thomas E. McKiernan/
Thomas E. McKiernan
Registration No. 37,889

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501